

October 16, 1940

Honorable John C. Page
Commissioner of Reclamation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Page:

Your co-operation and that of your staff with the Utah Water Storage Commission has been so pleasant and helpful to the State of Utah, that we desire to express and record herewith our appreciation of this cordial association.

The reclamation of lands by irrigation requires much technical aid from engineer, soil expert and irrigation specialist. This you have furnished liberally under our co-operative agreements, to supplement the skill of our own State institution. More important, you and your staff have shared with us the vision of the future possibilities of the arid and semiarid region and a secure faith that man in the end will be victorious in his contest with the forces about him. Without such vision and faith, there would be no past or future reclamation history in the United States.

The problems of the conquest of the desert and near-desert are many. Human problems are not the least. The families that through several generations convert the barren, thirsty land into blossoming gardens are, after all, our first and greatest concern. These human problems can be solved only by a sympathetic understanding of the hopes and toil of the pioneer man and woman and their children and children's children. You have felt and respected the heart throb, as it were, of the people under the ditch. This has been invaluable help from you and your staff.

The future of irrigation in the United States looms larger than ever in importance. It is the irrigated area that will connect the Atlantic and Pacific seaboards, and make of us one continuous country ready for the issues of life whether in war or peace. Indeed, the development of the two fifths of the United States under a low rainfall will be a bulwark for peace and a defense against war. Our irrigation development is far from finished. The old projects, small and large, must be completed and made more serviceable; and many new projects are awaiting development. Before we have finished, all available water must be made to flow through the furrows of the farm.

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Honorable John C. Page
10/16/40

Again we thank you and your staff for your friendly, intelligent co-operation. We should be glad to have you extend our appreciation also to the legislative and executive officers of our country, whose approval of our plans has made it possible to construct many of the recommended projects.

We trust that the helpful co-operation with you and your staff may be long continued; and may health and happiness wait upon you.

Sincerely,

UTAH WATER STORAGE COMMISSION

Wm. R. Wallace, Chairman

By William Peterson
Vice-Chairman

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CC-Honorable Henry H. Blood
Governor of Utah